NOTICE OF EMERGENCY RULE REPEAL AND PROMULGATION

AGENCY:

Department of Marine Resources

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 12 M.R.S.A. Sections 6172 and 6192

RULE REPEAL AND PROMULGATION: DMR Regulation 96.06, Closed Area No. 164, Isles of Shoals to Naskeag Point, Brooklin, promulgated on December 9. 1994, is repealed and replaced with the following rule:

TEXT OF RULE: DMR Regulation 96.06, Closed Area No. 164, Isles of Shoals to Schoodic Point, Gouldsboro.

1. Effective immediately, because of contamination (Paralytic Shellfish Poison), it shall be unlawful to dig, take or possess any ocean quahogs (Arctica islandica) taken from Maine coastal waters and those offshore waters of the exclusive economic zone (200 mile limit) between the Maine - New Hampshire boundary and a line drawn southerly from the southernmost prominence of Big Moose Island at Schoodic Point, Gouldsboro to Mt Desert Rock; then true south to the limits of U. S. jurisdiction.

Violation of any provision of this regulation shall be a Class D Crime (12 M.R.S.A. Section 6204)

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 21, 1998

AGENCY CONTACT PERSON:

Paul S. Anderson

Department of Marine Resources

McKown Point Road

West Boothbay Harbor, ME 04575

BANGOR DAILY NEWS January 26, 1998

STATEMENT OF FACT AND POLICY

The Commissioner of the Maine Department of Marine Resources repeals the emergency DMR Regulation 96.06, Closed Area No. 164, Isles of Shoals to Naskeag Point, Brooklin, promulgated on December 9, 1994 and replaces it with a new rule. This new rule expands the area closed to harvest of ocean quahogs by moving the eastern closure line a line running from Schoodic Point to Mount Desert Rock.

The closed area may contain dangerous levels of Paralytic Shellfish Poison and must remain closed to harvest of ocean quahogs. Therefore, the Commissioner adopts this emergency regulation in order to protect the public health.

> GILBERT BILODEAU, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER FOR E. PENN ESTABROOK, COMMISSIONER (Acting)

AS AUTHORIZED BY 12 MRSA SECTION 6023

Z:\closures\AREAS.PSP164-21a.lwp

